AMENDMENTS

In the Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A system for supporting a website comprising:

an IP device located on a public network, the IP device having a public IP address and a known port number; and

a second device located outside the public network, the second device not including a listening socket;

wherein a connection exists between the second device and the IP device, which connection is initiated by the second device; and

the IP device cannot initiate a connection with the second device due to the second device not having a listening socket.

2. (Cancelled).

3. (Previously Presented) A system according to claim 1 wherein the second device is located on a private IP network with a private IP address.

4. (Previously Presented) A system according to claim 3 wherein the communication protocol between the IP device and the second device is TCP/IP or application level protocol based on TCP/IP.

5. (Previously Presented) A system according to claim 1 wherein the communication between the IP device and the second device is encrypted.

6. (Previously Presented) A system according to claim 1 wherein the second device comprises a memory storing information for publication or private source data.

7. (Previously Presented) A system according to claim 1 further comprising a third device connected to the second device through a private network, the third device comprising a memory storing information for publication or private source data.

8. (Currently Amended) A system for supporting a website comprising:

an IP device located on a public network, the IP device having a public IP address and a known port number;

a second device located on a private network having a responder function with a private IP address and port number, the second device not including a listening socket; and

a third device having a memory storing information for publication or private source data, located on the private network in communication with the second device;

wherein a single connection exists between the second device and the IP device, which connection is initiated by the second device and wherein the IP device cannot initiate a connection with the second device by virtue of the private IP address of the second device, the private IP address being dynamic.

9. (Previously Presented) A method for increasing security for sensitive information or source data contained in a memory which is used to respond to inquiries directed to a website by safeguarding a responder function, comprising:

providing on a public network an IP device having a public IP address and known port number, the IP device having an application that corresponds to a listening function of a website;

providing an application corresponding to a responder function of a website, wherein the responder application is isolated from the IP device;

the responder application registering with the listening application and subscribing to receive incoming requests by initiating a communication channel to the listening application as a communication client;

the listening application receiving a request from a remote application and sending incoming requests only to the registered responder application;

processing the incoming requests by the responder application; and

returning results to the remote application via the listening application.

10. (Previously Presented) A method for increasing security for sensitive information or source data contained in a memory which is used to respond to inquiries directed to a website by allowing them to be placed in a private network along with a responder function, comprising:

providing on a public network an IP device having a public IP address and known port number, the IP device having an application that corresponds to a listening function of a website;

providing on a private network a second IP device having a private IP address, the second IP device having an application corresponding to a responder function of a website;

the responder application initiating an outgoing TCP connection to the listening application as a communication client and registering to receive incoming requests;

the listening application receiving a request from a remote application and sending incoming requests to the responder application;

processing the incoming requests by the responder application by optionally accessing the source data; and

returning results to the remote application via the listening application.

11. (Currently Amended) A method for increasing security for sensitive information which is used to respond to inquiries directed to a website, comprising:

providing on a private network an IP device having a dynamic IP address and port number, the IP device having an application corresponding to a responder function of a website, the IP device not including a listening socket;

providing on a public network a second IP device having a public IP address and known port number, the second IP device having an application that corresponds to a listening function of a website;

causing the responder application in the IP device to establish a connection with the listening application in the second IP device, communication including the IP address for the IP device and a port number for the responder application;

receiving communications at the second IP device from other IP devices located on the public network or from devices located on private networks in communication with the public network;

transmitting requests for information relating to inquiries from the listening application to the responder application over the connection established by the responder application;

processing the requests for information by the responder application;

providing a response from the responder application to the listening application over the connection established by the responder application; and

transmitting from the listening application to the other IP devices information relating to the requests.